

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on July 25, 2007 has been received and its contents carefully considered. In this Amendment, Applicant has cancelled claims 3-4, 6, 14, 16 and 17. Claim 8 is independent claim. Claims 8, 10-12 and 15 are now pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Initially, the applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's indication of allowance of claims 8, 10-12 and 15.

Claims 3-4, 6, 14, 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by *Saimoto et al.* (US 6,730,595). It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is moot in view of the cancellation herein of claims 3-4, 6, 14, 16 and 17.

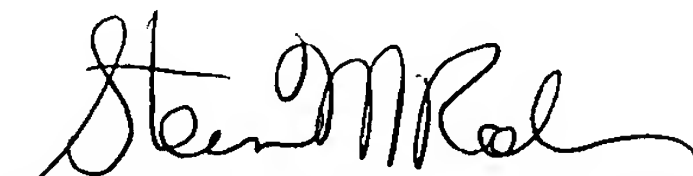
Based on the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and such a Notice, with allowed claims 8, 10-12 and 15, earnestly is solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

No fee is believed due. Should any fee be required, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

October 22, 2007
Date


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SMR/JJ